

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 16, 2018

Honorable Charlie Dent
Chairman
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and
Related Agencies Subcommittee
HVC-227
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Ranking Member
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and
Related Agencies Subcommittee
1016 LHOB
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Defense Subcommittee
H-405 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Peter Visclosky
Ranking Member
Defense Subcommittee
1016 LHOB
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Dent, Chairwoman Granger, Ranking Member Wasserman Schultz and Ranking Member Visclosky:

We write to request robust funding for remediation of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances' (PFAS) contamination on or near military bases in the Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) Department of Defense and Military Construction and Veteran's Affairs appropriations bills.

PFAS are dangerous chemicals used in firefighting foam at military bases around the country. Exposure to PFAS has been linked to cancer as well as thyroid, kidney, liver, heart and reproductive problems. In 2016, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established new lifetime health advisories for two types of PFAS—perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). The U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has identified hundreds of active and former military installations with known or suspected release of PFOA/PFOS that require investigation and remediation.

In Michigan, elevated levels of these chemicals have been discovered in and around at least six different current and former military installations. We understand that the 2018 National Defense Authorization Act authorized \$72 million for environmental remediation of PFAS across the country. However, the state of Michigan alone estimates that it will cost at least \$328 million to remediate PFAS contamination from military installations in just our state. The state's estimate to remediate PFAS is expected to grow as more research is done to determine the extent of that contamination. Furthermore, if we do not address the contamination now, in the long-term, it will become costlier to remediate.

PFAS contamination is both a threat to public health and Michigan's economy. Many communities depend on groundwater for their drinking water. In many communities, the groundwater is contaminated by PFAS and unsafe to drink. PFAS contamination has also spread

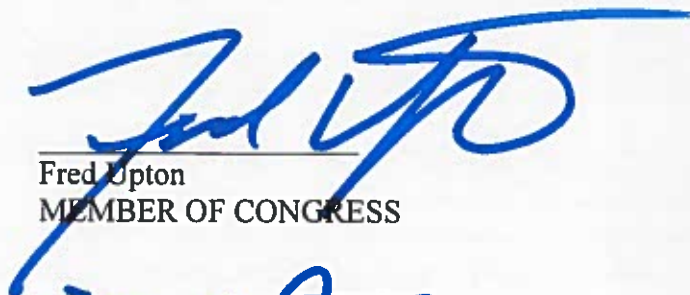
into our lakes and rivers, impacting Michigan's \$22.8 billion annual tourist industry. Thus, it is imperative that there be robust funding to clean up the military's contamination of our state and others around the country.

We appreciate your attention to this very important matter and your efforts to support the people of Michigan.

Sincerely,



Daniel T. Kildee
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Fred Upton
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Debbie Dingell
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



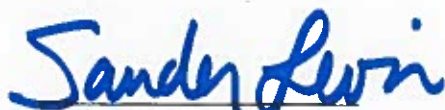
Dave Trott
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Brenda Lawrence
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Jack Bergman
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Sander M. Levin
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Tim Walberg
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Bill Huizenga
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Paul Mitchell
MEMBER OF CONGRESS